

§ 891.685

may be located adjacent to other housing primarily serving handicapped persons if the projects together do not exceed the project size limitations under § 891.665(a).

§ 891.685 Prohibited relationships.

The requirements for prohibited relationships for 202/162 projects are provided in § 891.130.

§ 891.690 Other Federal requirements.

In addition to the Federal requirements set forth in 24 CFR part 5, other Federal requirements for the 202/162 projects are provided in §§ 891.155 and 891.325.

§ 891.695 Operating cost standards.

The requirements for the operating cost standards are provided in § 891.150.

§ 891.700 Prepayment of loans.

(a) *Prepayment prohibition.* The prepayment (whether in whole or in part) or the assignment or transfer of physical and financial assets of any Section 202 project is prohibited, unless the Assistant Secretary gives prior written approval.

(b) *HUD-approved prepayment.* Approval for prepayment or transfer will not be granted unless HUD determines that the prepayment or transfer of the loan is a part of a transaction that will ensure the continued operation of the project until the original maturity date of the loan in a manner that will provide rental housing for the handicapped families on terms at least as advantageous to existing and future tenants as the terms required by the original Section 202 loan agreement and any other loan agreements entered into under other provisions of law.

§ 891.705 Project assistance contract.

(a) *Project assistance contract (PAC).* The PAC sets forth rights and duties of the Borrower and HUD with respect to the project and the project assistance payments.

(b) *PAC execution.* (1) Upon satisfactory completion of the project, the Borrower and HUD shall execute the PAC on the form prescribed by HUD.

(2) The effective date of the PAC may be earlier than the date of execution,

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but no earlier than the date of HUD's issuance of the permission to occupy.

(3) If the project is completed in stages, the procedures of paragraph (b) of this section shall apply to each stage.

(c) *Project assistance payments to owners under the PAC.* The project assistance payments made under the PAC are:

(1) Payments to the Borrower to assist eligible families leasing assisted units. The amount of the project assistance payment made to the Borrower for an assisted unit (or residential space in a group home) that is leased to an eligible family is equal to the difference between the contract rent for the unit (or pro rata share of the contract rent in a group home) and the tenant rent payable by the family.

(2) Payments to the Borrower for vacant assisted units ("vacancy payments"). The amount of and conditions for vacancy payments are described in § 891.790. HUD makes the project assistance payments monthly upon proper requisition by the Borrower, except payments for vacancies of more than 60 days, which HUD makes semiannually upon requisition by the Borrower.

(d) *Payment of utility reimbursement.* If applicable, a utility reimbursement will be paid to a family occupying an assisted unit in an independent living complex as an additional project assistance payment. The PAC will provide that the Borrower will make this payment on behalf of HUD. Funds will be paid to the Borrower in trust solely for the purpose of making the additional payment. The Borrower may pay the utility reimbursement jointly to the family and the utility company, or, if the family and utility company consent, directly to the utility company.

§ 891.710 Term of PAC.

The term of the PAC shall be 20 years. If the project is completed in stages, the term of the PAC for each stage shall be 20 years. The term of the PAC for stages of a project shall not exceed 22 years.

§ 891.715 Maximum annual commitment and project account.

(a) *Maximum annual commitment.* The maximum annual amount that may be

committed under the PAC is the total of the initial contract rents and utility allowances for all assisted units in the project.

(b) *Project account.* (1) HUD will establish and maintain a specifically identified and segregated project account for each project. The project account will be established out of the amounts by which the maximum annual commitment exceeds the amount actually paid out under the PAC each year. HUD will make payments from this account for project assistance payments as needed to cover increases in contract rents or decreases in tenant income and other payments for costs specifically approved by the Secretary.

(2) If the HUD-approved estimate of required annual payments under the PAC for a fiscal year exceeds the maximum annual commitment for that fiscal year plus the current balance in the project account, HUD will, within a reasonable time, take such steps authorized by section 202(h)(4)(A) of the Housing Act of 1959, as may be necessary, to assure that payments under the PAC will be adequate to cover increases in contract rents and decreases in tenant income.

§ 891.720 Leasing to eligible families.

(a) *Availability of assisted units for occupancy by eligible families.* During the term of the PAC, a Borrower shall make all units (or residential spaces in a group home) available for eligible families. For purposes of this section, making units or residential spaces available for occupancy by eligible families means that the Borrower:

(1) Is conducting marketing in accordance with § 891.740(a);

(2) Has leased or is making good faith efforts to lease the units or residential spaces to eligible and otherwise acceptable families, including taking all feasible actions to fill vacancies by renting to such families; and (3) Has not rejected any such applicant family except for reasons acceptable to HUD. If the Borrower is temporarily unable to lease all units or residential spaces to eligible families, one or more units or residential spaces may, with the prior approval of HUD, be leased to otherwise eligible families that do not meet the income requirements of part 813 of

this chapter, as modified by § 891.505. Failure on the part of the Borrower to comply with these requirements is a violation of the PAC and grounds for all available legal remedies, including an action for specific performance of the PAC, suspension or debarment from HUD programs, and reduction of the number of units (or in the case of group homes, reduction of the number of residential spaces) under the PAC as set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Reduction of number of units covered by the PAC.* HUD may reduce the number of units (or in the case of group homes, the number of residential spaces) covered by the PAC to the number of units or residential spaces available for occupancy by eligible families if:

(1) The Borrower fails to comply with the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section; or

(2) Notwithstanding any prior approval by HUD, HUD determines that the inability to lease units or residential spaces to eligible families is not a temporary problem.

(c) *Restoration.* HUD will agree to an amendment of the PAC to provide for subsequent restoration of any reduction made under paragraph (b) of this section if:

(1) HUD determines that the restoration is justified by demand;

(2) The Borrower otherwise has a record of compliance with the Borrower's obligations under the PAC; and

(3) Contract and budget authority is available.

(d) *Occupancy by families that are not handicapped.* HUD may relieve the Borrower of the requirement that all units in the project (or residential spaces in a group home) must be leased to handicapped families if:

(1) The Borrower has made reasonable efforts to lease to eligible families;

(2) The Borrower has been granted HUD approval under paragraph (a) of this section; and

(3) The Borrower is temporarily unable to achieve or maintain a level of occupancy sufficient to prevent financial default and foreclosure under the Section 202 loan documents. HUD approval under this paragraph will be of